

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of this application as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A backplane for use in an electro-optic display, the backplane comprising a patterned metal foil having a plurality of apertures extending therethrough, coated on at least one side with an insulating polymeric material and having a plurality of thin film electronic devices provided on the insulating polymeric material, whereby the insulating polymeric material separates the thin film electronic devices from the patterned metal foil.

2. (Original) A backplane according to claim 1 wherein the apertures are arranged on a rectangular grid.

3. (Original) A backplane according to claim 1 wherein the apertures occupy at least about 30 per cent of the area of the patterned metal foil.

4. (Original) A backplane according to claim 3 wherein the apertures occupy at least about 60 per cent of the area of the patterned metal foil.

5. (Original) A backplane according to claim 1 wherein the patterned metal foil is coated on both sides with an insulating polymeric material.

6. (Original) A backplane according to claim 5 wherein the patterned metal foil is coated on both sides with the same insulating polymeric material.

7. (Original) A backplane according to claim 5 wherein the patterned metal foil is coated on its two sides with different insulating polymeric materials.

8. (Original) A backplane according to claim 1 wherein each of the thin film electronic devices lies entirely within the area of one aperture in the metal foil.

9. (Original) A backplane according to claim 1 wherein each of the thin film electronic devices extends across a plurality of apertures in the metal foil.

10. (Original) An electro-optic display comprising a backplane according to claim 1.

11. (Original) An electro-optic display according to claim 10 comprising an encapsulated electrophoretic electro-optic medium.

12. (Original) A backplane for use in an electro-optic display, the backplane comprising a metal foil coated on at least one side with an insulating polymeric material and having a plurality of thin film electronic devices provided on the insulating polymeric material, the backplane further comprising at least one conductive via extending through the polymeric material and electrically connecting at least one of the thin film electronic devices to the metal foil.

13. (Original) A backplane according to claim 12 wherein the metal foil serves as at least one of an antenna, an inductor loop, a power plane, a capacitor, a capacitor contact, a pixel electrode, and electromagnetic induction shielding.

14. (Original) An electro-optic display comprising a backplane according to claim 12.

15. (Original) An electro-optic display according to claim 14 in the form of a smart card having an electro-optic display thereon, and wherein the metal foil serves to communicate between the card and a card reading apparatus.

Claims 16-23. (Cancelled).

24. (Original) An electro-optic display having a metal substrate, the display having a central portion comprising an electro-optic material and means for writing an image on the electro-optic material, and a peripheral portion extending around at least part of the periphery of the central portion, the peripheral portion having a plurality of apertures extending through the metal substrate, by means of which apertures the electro-optic display may be stitched to a flexible medium.

25. (Original) An electro-optic display according to claim 24 wherein the peripheral portion of such a display is free from the electro-optic material.

26. (Previously presented) An electro-optic display according to claim 24 wherein the peripheral portion extends completely around the central portion so that the entire periphery of the electro-optic display can be stitched to the flexible medium.

Claims 27-31. (Cancelled).